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THE APPLICATION OF GINNINGS COMPANY TO CONSIDER UNITIZATION AND SECONDARY RECOVERY AUTHORITY FOR THE NORTH NAYLOR JENNINGS SAND UNIT, NAYLOR (JENNINGS SAND) FIELD, COLEMAN COUNTY, TEXAS

**HEARD BY:** Richard D. Atkins, P.E. - Technical Examiner

Christopher Hotchkiss - Legal Examiner

**DATE OF HEARING:** February 25, 2011

APPEARANCES: REPRESENTING:

**APPLICANT:** 

Richard P. Marshall, Jr. Marke D. Ginnings

**Ginnings Company** 

## **EXAMINERS' REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION**

# **STATEMENT OF THE CASE**

Ginnings Company ("Ginnings") requests Commission authority for unitization of the North Naylor Jennings Sand Unit and approval of secondary recovery operations on the Unit.

This application was unprotested and the examiners recommend approval.

### **DISCUSSION OF THE EVIDENCE**

The Naylor (Jennings Sand) Field was discovered in August 1952 at an average depth of 3,380 feet. There are no producing oil wells carried on the proration schedule. Field Rules provide for 330'-660' well spacing, 20 acre density and allocation based on 75% acres and 25% per well. The top allowable is 64 BOPD with an allowable gas-oil ratio of 2,000 cubic feet per barrel and a casinghead gas limit of 128 MCFGPD. Cumulative production from the field is 712.8 MBO and 178.9 MMCFG.

The unitized formation is the subsurface portion of the Unit Area commonly known as the Jennings Sand formation between the subsurface depths of 3,467 feet and 3,472 feet as shown on the log of the G.M. Petroleum Corporation - Jaries "A" Lease, Well No. 11A (API No. 42-083-35279), Section 309, GW Morgan Survey, Abstract 531, Coleman

County, Texas.

The proposed North Naylor Jennings Sand Unit consists of 3 tracts which contain 147.1 acres. The productive interval is a sand which is a stratigraphic trap that has no structural component. Solution gas drive is the primary drive mechanism. The proposed unit contains all of the productive portions of the Jennings Sand, as demonstrated by a cross section, structure map and net pay isopach map submitted by Ginnings. The sand has an average porosity of 15%, an average water saturation of 27% and an average net pay thickness of 7 feet.

Ginnings proposes to implement a waterflood initially by drilling 1 producing and 1 injection wells. Ginnings will inject produced saltwater and additional makeup saltwater from the Serratt and Cambrian Sand formations located at an average depth of approximately 2,120 feet and 4,900 feet, respectively. The makeup water will be piped in from a water source well located to the south on the Naylor Jennings Sand Unit.

Ginnings estimates that secondary recovery will be equal to 400% of primary recovery or approximately 40.3 MBO. The total cost to implement and operate the secondary recovery project is expected to be \$642,300 and \$434,100, respectively. The projected net undiscounted working interest income is \$1.7 million, resulting in a return on investment of 2.73. This calculation is based on an oil price of \$85 per barrel.

The participation formula for the Unit is based on 50% primary cumulative production and 50% net reservoir volume. At the time of the hearing, 100% of the working interest ownership and 100% of the royalty interest ownership had signed the unit agreement. There are no state owned lands in the proposed unit.

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Notice of this hearing was sent to all operators and royalty interest owners within and adjacent to the proposed unit. Notice was published in the *Chronicle & Democrat-Voice*, a newspaper of general circulation in Coleman County, for four consecutive weeks beginning January 19, 2011.
- 2. The proposed North Naylor Jennings Sand Unit consists of 3 tracts which contain 147.1 acres.
- 3. The unitized formation is the subsurface portion of the Unit Area commonly known as the Jennings Sand formation between the subsurface depths of 3,467 feet and 3,472 feet as shown on the log of the G.M. Petroleum Corporation Jaries "A" Lease, Well No. 11A (API No. 42-083-35279), Section 309, GW Morgan Survey, Abstract 531, Coleman County, Texas.
- 4. The productive interval is a sand which is a stratigraphic trap that has no structural component. Solution gas drive is the primary drive mechanism.

- 5. At the time of the hearing, 100% of the working interest ownership and 100% of the royalty interest ownership had signed the unit agreement.
- 6. Secondary recovery operations are expected to result in the recovery of an estimated 40.3 MBO which would otherwise go unrecovered.
- 7. The total cost to implement and operate the secondary recovery project is expected to be \$642,300 and \$434,100, respectively. The projected net undiscounted working interest income is \$1.7 million, resulting in a return on investment of 2.73. The cost does not exceed the value of additional reserves to be recovered.
- 8. The participation formula for the Unit is based on 50% primary cumulative production and 50% net reservoir volume.
- 9. The secondary recovery project will not be successful unless the area is unitized.
- 10. Ginnings proposes to implement a waterflood initially by drilling 1 producing and 1 injection wells. Ginnings will inject produced saltwater and additional makeup saltwater from the Serratt and Cambrian Sand formations located at an average depth of approximately 2,120 feet and 4,900 feet, respectively. The makeup water will be piped in from a water source well located to the south on the Naylor Jennings Sand Unit.
- 11. The agreement was voluntarily executed by all parties affixing their signatures thereto and no person has been compelled or required to enter into the agreement. The unit agreement binds only those persons who have executed it, their heirs, successors, assigns and legal representatives. The rights of all owners of interests in the field will be protected under the operation of the unit, regardless of whether an owner signed the unit agreement.
- 12. The owners of interest in the oil and gas under each tract of land within the area reasonably defined by development have been given an opportunity to enter into the unit on the same yardstick basis as owners of interest in the oil and gas under the other tracts in the unit.
- 13. The proposed injection program will move hydrocarbons across lease lines, and unitization is necessary in order to protect the correlative rights of the various interest owners.
- 14. The unitization agreement is necessary to accomplish the purposes of

establishing a unit to effect secondary recovery operations for water injection and to operate cooperative facilities necessary thereto. Other available or existing methods or facilities for secondary recovery operations are inadequate for the purpose of secondary recovery.

- 15. The unit agreement does not provide, either directly or indirectly, for the cooperative refining or marketing of crude petroleum, distillate, condensate, or gas, or any by-product thereof.
- 16. The unit agreement is subject to all valid orders, rules and regulations of the Railroad Commission.
- 17. The unit agreement contains no provision regarding field rules, nor does it limit the amount of production of oil or gas from the unitized area. The unit agreement does not release the operator from his obligation to reasonably develop lands or leases as a whole.
- 18. The unit agreement is a voluntary agreement entered into for the purpose of conducting secondary recovery operations.
- 19. The unit agreement does not provide for the location of wells.
- 20. There are no state owned lands in the proposed unit.
- 21. The unit agreement is in the interest of public welfare as being reasonably necessary to prevent waste and to promote conservation.
- 22. The reservoir described in the unit agreement is identified as a single reservoir for Commission purposes and is a suitable reservoir for a water injection secondary recovery operation.
- 23. The unit agreement contains only the acreage reasonably necessary to accomplish the proposed secondary recovery project.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. Proper notice was given to all persons legally entitled to notice.
- 2. All things have occurred or have been accomplished that are necessary to give the Commission jurisdiction in this matter.
- 3. Applicant's proposed secondary recovery project satisfies all of the requirements set out in TEX. NAT. RES. CODE ANN. §§101.001 et seq.

4. Approval of the proposed unit agreement for secondary recovery operations is in the public interest and is necessary to prevent waste and to promote the conservation of oil or gas or both.

# **EXAMINERS' RECOMMENDATION**

Based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, the examiners recommend approval of the proposed North Naylor Jennings Sand Unit and secondary recovery operations project, as set out in the attached order.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Hotchkiss Legal Examiner Richard D. Atkins, P.E. Technical Examiner